



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

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6/6/96

JUN 6 1996

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

SR-6J

Mr. Ronald Frehner
Project Coordinator - ACS NPL Site
Conestoga-Rovers & Associates
1801 Old Highway 8, Suite 114
St. Paul, Minnesota 55112



RE: Approval of Design/Build Approach
and Proposed Alignment for Dewatering/
Barrier Wall System, American Chemical
Service, Inc., Griffith, Indiana

Dear Mr. Frehner:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) hereby responds to several proposals contained in the March 1996, Technical Memorandum Dewatering/Barrier Wall Investigation Report submitted by Montgomery Watson on behalf of the Respondents to the Unilateral Order (Docket No. V-W-95-C-260) for the American Chemical Service, Inc., National Priorities List (NPL) Superfund Site located in Griffith, Indiana (ACS Site). U.S. EPA and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) are in favor of expeditious construction of the Barrier Wall/Dewatering System to help in dewatering the site and contain the highly contaminated groundwater.

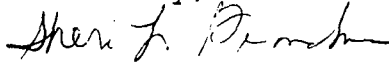
Given that Respondents believe that design/build approach will serve to expedite the design and serve to get the system operational and functional on an expeditious basis, U.S. EPA hereby approves of the design-build approach. Hence, U.S. EPA agrees to Respondents moving forward to order the necessary components of the remedy and to construct the barrier walls and dewatering system. The proposed barrier wall alignment is acceptable to U.S. EPA. The system must be complete by February 28, 1997.

As previously discussed, U.S. EPA will not take on a major oversight role in reviewing the design of the system; hence, Respondents are taking additional risk that the performance of the system will meet its intended goals. U.S. EPA will focus on reviewing and approving the performance standard verification plan.

Also, as you are aware, adequate notification must be given to the U.S. EPA and IDEM as to the initiation of remedial action field work so that the appropriate oversight personnel may be on-site to observe the activities. Furthermore, notification to U.S. EPA and IDEM of planned field activities shall continue on a weekly basis.

If you have any questions, or require clarification, you may reach me at (312) 886-4745.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sheri L. Bianchin".

Sheri L. Bianchin,
Remedial Project Manager
Office of Superfund
Remedial Response Section #3

cc: Joseph Adams, Montgomery Watson
Peter Vagt, Montgomery Watson
Holly Grejda, IDEM
Steve Mrvicka, Black & Veatch
Mike McClary, U.S. EPA, ORC